

## Message Text

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14

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

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P R 262229 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4678

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LIMA

UNCLAS SANTIAGO 2782

EO 11652: N/ A

TAGS: CI PINT PINS

SUBJ: CABINET SPECULATION AMID JUDICIAL COMPLAINTS

REF: SANTIAGO 2762

1. SUMMARY. SPECULATION CONCERNING CABINET CHANGES CONTINUES TO DOMINATE COMMENT. SUPREME COURT ISSUED ANOTHER SHARP PUBLIC LETTER DENOUNCING EXECUTIVE BRANCH DISRESPECT FOR LEGAL NORMS. VIOLENCE CONFINED TO MINOR INCIDENTS, WIVES OF TENIENTE STRIKERS ARRIVE TODAY. GOVT HAS SOUGHT TO DEFUSE SOME PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY IN SENSITIVE AREA OF HEALTH SERVICES, BUT OPPOSITION PN AND FAR- RIGHT PATRIA Y LIBERTAD HAVE ISSUED DECLARATIONS ADAMANTLY REAFFIRMING THEIR HARD- LINE STANCES. IMPEACHMENT FRONT CONTINUES ACTIVE, BUT REAL INTEREST CONTINUES TO CENTER ON ROLE OF MILITARY. END SUMMARY.

2. COMPOSITION OF EXPECTED NEW CABINET CONTINUES TO BE PRIME ITEM OF SPECULATION AND RUMORS. ARMY GENERALS' MEETING TODAY AND TOMORROW BILLED AS ROUTINE, BUT POSSIBLE MILITARY ENTRANCE INTO CABINET IS PRESUMABLY PRIMARY TOPIC. GOVT, MEANWHILE, ISSUED STATEMENT REBUTTING STORY IN YESTERDAY' S INDEPENDENT UNCLASSIFIED

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RIGHTIST LA SEGUNDA THAT SIX MILITARY OFFICERS, ACTING FOR THEMSELVES AND PERSONALLY LOYAL TO ALLENDE, WILL BE NAMED TO CABINET. SUCH STORIES ARE NO MORE THAN IDLE RUMORS, SAID GOVT.

3. INDEPENDENT TERCERA PRINTED PURPORTED TEXT OF " SECRET" JUNE 6 LETTER FROM THEN ACTING ARMY CINC GEN PINOCHET TO SENATE PRES FREI, DENOUNCING SENATE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON FINANCIAL ASSETS OF VARIOUS INTERPGNTORS, INCLUDING THREE MILITARY OFFICERS. SUCH A REQUEST, SAID LETTER, GRATUITIOUSLY BESMIRCHES REPUTATION OF HONORABLE OFFICERS.

4. EXECUTIVE- JUDICIAL CLASH HAS REACHED NEW RHETORICAL HEIGHT, WITH UP PRESS HARPING UPON ALLEGED CORRUPTION OF HIGH RANKING JUDGES WHILE SUPREME COURT CRITICIZES PRES ALLENDE IN STRONGEST LANGUAGE YET. LEGALITY JUDGES ABILITY TO COLLECT LAWYERS' PENSION AND COURT SALARIES CONCURRENTLY UNCLEAR ( REFTEL). NEVERTHELESS ISSUE IS CENTERPRICE IN CONCERTED UP PRESS CAMPAIGN TO DISCREDIT COURTS. JUDICIARY HOTLY MOUNTING ITS OWN DEFENSE IN OPPOSITION PRESS. WITHIN CONTEXT OF CHARGE AND COUNTERCHARGE, SUPREME COURT RESPONDED JUNE 25 TO PRES ALLENDE' S JUNE 14 HARDLINE LETTER ( SANTIAGO 2589). COURT' S INVOLVED DISCUSSION COMPLEX LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS DOES NOT DISGUISE ITS POSITION OF NOW OPEN CONFRONTATION WITH PRESIDENT. COURT' S RESPONSE ACCUSES ALLENDE OF TAKING PART IN SYSTEMATIC ATTEMPT TO DESTROY JUDICIARY AND OF ATTEMPTING TO SUBMIT JUDICIARY' S FREEDOM TO POLITICAL NECESSITIES OF GOVERNMENT. COURT CONDEMNS ALLENDE' S ASSERTION THAT ONLY EXECUTIVE BRANCH WELL- ENOUGH INFORMED TO DECIDE WHETHER JUDICIAL DECREES SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED OR POSTPONED FOR REASONS OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND ORDER. COURT ARGUES THAT CONSTITUTION OBLIGES EXECUTIVE TO IMPLEMENT ITS DECREES WITHOUT DILATORY ACTION AND THAT " TEMPORARY SUSPENSION" OF IMPLEMENTATION OFTEN DEVELOPS INTO PERMANENT FAILURE BY EXECUTIVE APPOINTEES TO OBEY COURT ORDERS. LEGAL NICETIES ASIDE, LETTER IS HIGHLY COMBATIVE AND DEFENSIVE OF JUDICIARY' S PREROGATIVES.

5. CONGRESS THIS WEEK HAS FIVE IMPEACHMENT PROCEEDINGS ON DOCKET. SENATE MAY VOTE TOMORROW ON SUSPENDED MINECONOMY MILLAS; CHAMBER HAS PENDING IMPEACHMENT ACCUSATIONS AGAINST MININTERIOR ESPINOZA AND INTENDENTES OF NUBLE AND TALCA PROVINCES PLUS DEMAND BY FENSA EXECUTIVE FOR IMPEACHMENT OF ENTIRE CABINET. MEANWHILE OUSTED MINLABOR FIGUEROA AND MINMINES BITAR ADMITTED THEY UNCLASSIFIED

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ARE TILL AT THEIR DESKS PERFORMING ALL NORMAL FUNCTIONS EXCEPT SIGNING LEGAL DOCUMENTS.

6. ONLY MINOR VIOLENCE REPORTED IN SANTIAGO AREA JUNE 25. FOUR EXPLOSIONS, APPARENTLY DYNAMITE, OCCURRED IN SCATTERED LOCATIONS. NEIGHBORHOOD COMMUNIST PARTY OFFICE ATTACKED TWICE IN 24 HOURS. NO CASUALTIES OR APPRECIABLE DAMAGE IN ANY OF THESE

INCIDENTS. GOVT ANNOUNCED ARREST OF 13 PN MEMBERS IN CHILLAN FOR ALLEGEDLY SMUGGLING WEAPONS INTO CHILE FROM ARGENTINA.

7. ALLENDE HELD THREE- HOUR MEETING JUNE 25 WITH CONTENDING FACTIONS INVOLVED IN VOLATILE PUBLIC HEALTH SITUATION INCLUDING DOCTORS STRIKES

AND SCUFFLING IN VARIOUS HOSPITALS. PARTICIPANTS QUOTED AS STATING THAT ALLENDE TOLD ALL SIDES IN STRONG TERMS TO WORK OUT PROBLEMS SO PATIENTS WILL NOT BE PREJUDICED. AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON SALVADOR HOSPITAL, WHERE DOCTORS HAVE BEEN ON STRIKE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS ( SANTIAGO 2336), WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ANNOUNCED.

8. PN PRESIDENT JARPA MADE RADIO REPLY JUNE 24 TO GOVT CHARTES AGAINST PARTY STEMMING FROM JUNE 16 STATEMENT DECLARING ALLENDE' S GOVT IS ILLEGITIMATE ( SANTIAGO 2632). JARPA REAFFIRMED PN STAND AND ACCUSED GOVT OF USING " TOTALITARIAN" METHODS. TEXT OF ADDRESS SUBSEQUENTLY PRINTED IN MOST OPPOSITION NEWSPAPERS. PATRIA Y LIBERTAD ALSO REPLIED TO GOVT IN FULL- PAGE AD IN TODAY' S MERCURIO. " TAKE US TO JAIL IF YOU DARE, COWARDS," SAID PYL, " BUT WE WILL NOT BE INTIMIDATED BY THE LIKES OF THIS GOVERNMENT."

9. WIVES OF STRIKING MINERS ARRIVED IN SANTIAGO TODAY AND DELEGATION MET WITH PRES ALLENDE. GOVT PREVIOUSLY ISSUED ANNOUNCEMENT STATING WOMEN DIDN' T REALLY HAVE TO STAGE A MARCH SINCE PRES ALLENDE WOULD BE HAPPY TO RECEIVE A REPRESENTATIVE DELEGATION. SHOULD THEY DECIDE TO MARCH, STATEMENT CONTINUED, MARCH AUTHORIZED. STATEMENT ADDED THAT PRESIDENT HOPED TO MEET ALSO WITH WIVES OF NON- STRIKING MINERS IF THEY SO CHOSE. UNIV OF CHILE AND OTHER STUDENTS HAVE BEEN ON STREET SINCE MIDDAY AWAITING RANCAGUA WOMEN . SOME TEARGAS INCIDENTS OCCURRED MIDDAY. DAVIS

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

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**To:** ARA  
BUENOS AIRES  
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